

MEDIA ADVISORY: Rep Adams Attending HHS M.O.M.S. Tour



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MEDIA ADVISORY

For August 5, 2024

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, ONLY

CHARLOTTE – U.S. Congresswoman Alma Adams, Ph.D. (NC-12) will attend The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2024 M.O.M.S. (Maternal Outcomes Matter Showers) Tour in Charlotte, North Carolina. Rep. Adams is the co-founder and co-chair of the Congressional Black Maternal Health Caucus. This national tour aims to improve maternal health outcomes, particularly among African American and Native American women in communities with high maternal and morbidity rates.

According to the CDC, in 2022, 817 women died of maternal causes in the United States. Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than White women. Native American women are two times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than White women. However, 80% of these deaths were determined to be preventable. Recognizing the early warning signs, getting an accurate and timely diagnosis, and having access to quality care can save lives.

The M.O.M.S. Tour comes as research shows overdose deaths increased in pregnant and postpartum women from early 2018 to late 2021. Among those aged 35 to 44, overdose mortality more than tripled during this period. Other data shows that among the 1,018 pregnancy-related deaths between the period of 2017 and 2019, an underlying cause of death was identified for 987 deaths. Mental health conditions were the highest percentage (22.7%) of the six most frequent underlying causes of pregnancy-related death.

The M.O.M.S. Tour targets cities with high maternal mortality and morbidity rates, especially among Black and Native American populations. The Tour brings together mental health professionals, birth workers, medical professionals, and community members to provide resources and support for pregnant and postpartum women and engage in meaningful discussions on maternal health disparities. In addition to baby resources, pregnant women and families will have access to essential health-related services such as healthcare coverage, mental health services, vaccinations, substance use disorder support, local services offered by doulas and midwives, health screenings, toolkits for postpartum depression, nutritious food, and more.

LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Details are subject to change.

HHS M.O.M.S. Tour in Charlotte, NC

WHEN: Saturday, August 03, 2024, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. EST

PRESS CONFERENCE: 11 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. EST

WHO:

- U.S. Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
- Rev. Dr. Que English, Director, Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships
- Antrell Tyson, HHS/IEA Regional Director, Region IV
- Deborah Frazier, President, National Healthy Start Association
- Elizabeth Pordes, Mecklenburg County Health Department
- Racquel Washington, Reproductive Justice Birthworker, The Queen's Collective Birthing
- Sherresa Falls, Director, Maternal Child Health, Care Ring
- Latoyia Dennis, CEO, A Chance to Learn
- Chris Davis, CEO, The Lion Heart
- Alexia Doumbouya, CEO, Cocolife.Black
- Marissa Dancy, Regional Behavioral Health Advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Jacqueline Mull, Regional Administrator, Administration for Children and Families, Region IV
- Teresa Zayas, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Region IV
- Dr. Kevin Greene, Regional Women's Health Analyst, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
- Tomeka Isaac, Executive Director /Co-Founder, Jace's Journey
- Just Serve

WHERE: The Park Church, 6029 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216

Press RSVP to Duilio Correa at Duilio.Correa@nih.gov

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Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. represents North Carolina's 12th Congressional District (Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, Cabarrus County) and serves on the House Committee on Agriculture and the House Committee on Education & the Workforce, where she serves as ranking member of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee.

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